



Office of the Mayor

MEDIA ADVISORY

Thursday, October 17, 2007

4:30 PM

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South Bend Boosts Leaf Pickup Strategy

The annual Operation ReLeaf program will begin Monday, October 29 in the southwest quadrant of the City and continue clockwise around the city for five weeks, ending the week of December 3, weather permitting. City Leaf-Vac crews will sweep each neighborhood twice in the five-week period. (Schedule Attached)

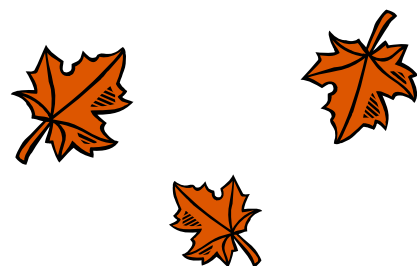
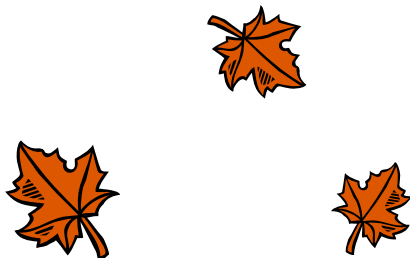
In an effort to get a jump start on the program, residents may call 235-9244 for loose-leaf pickup next - Monday, October 22 through Thursday, October 25. Crews will be dispatched and pick up piles in the order calls are received. They will work all around the city on a strategic basis targeting those addresses that have called in, for maximum efficiency. In addition, South Bend residents can call in this weekend, allowing crews to mobilize first thing on Monday!

The purpose of this strategy is two-fold. First, it provides South Bend residents with the fastest, most efficient leaf collection program possible. Second, it allows the City to be as flexible as possible while ensuring the most cost-effective delivery of services to our residents. As residents are aware, Northern Indiana weather can radically fluctuate this time of the year, making it hard to accurately predict when actual leaf fall will occur.

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South Bend's Department of Public Works' Division of Streets is committed to implementing Mayor Steve Luecke's Clean City Initiative with an effective plan to collect leaves, keep streets and drains clean and clear, and even more importantly support good environmental stewardship. All leaves and yard waste are 100% recycled at the City's Organic Resource Facility. Mulch and compost are then made available to local residents for free or at very limited cost, if staff assist with loading. South Bend's comprehensive leaf collection program also helps keep our river and streams cleaner and reducing impact on the sewer and storm water systems.

As always, the City of South Bend provides a year-round bagged leaf and yard waste pickup plan: residents may place bagged or bundled yard waste at the curb for pickup on their regular trash pickup days. Or, consider the environmental benefits of mowing leaves to keep the nutrients on the lawn, and avoid raking altogether.



CITY OF SOUTH BEND OPERATION RELEAF 2007

The loose leaf pick-up program will begin Monday, Oct. 29th and continue until Monday, Dec. 3rd.

<u>Day</u>		<u>Quadrant</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Mon.	Oct. 29	South West	City Limits	Indiana Ave.
Tues.	Oct. 30	South West	Indiana Ave.	Western Ave.
Wed.	Oct. 31	South West	Western Ave.	Washington St.
Thurs.	Nov. 1	North West	Washington St.	Elwood Ave.
Fri.	Nov. 2	North West	Elwood Ave.	Lathrop
Mon.	Nov. 5	North West	Lathrop	City Limits
Tues.	Nov. 6	North East	City Limits	McKinley Blvd.
Wed.	Nov. 7	North East	McKinley Blvd.	Jefferson Blvd.
Thurs.	Nov. 8	North East	Jefferson Blvd.	St. Joe River
Fri.	Nov. 9	South East	St. Joe River	Ewing St.
Mon.	Nov. 12	South East	Ewing St.	Ireland Rd.
Tues.	Nov. 13	South East	Ireland Rd.	City Limits
Wed.	Nov. 14	South West	City Limits	Indiana Ave.
Thurs.	Nov. 15	South West	Indiana Ave.	Western Ave.
Fri.	Nov. 17	South West	Western Ave.	Washington St.
Mon.	Nov. 19	North West	Washington St.	Elwood Ave.
Tues.	Nov. 20	North West	Elwood Ave.	Lathrop
Wed.	Nov. 21	North West	Lathrop	City Limits
Thurs.	Nov. 22	- THANKSGIVING HOLIDAYS - NO PICKUP -		
Fri.	Nov. 23			
Mon.	Nov. 26	North East	City Limits	McKinley Blvd.
Tues.	Nov. 27	North East	McKinley Blvd.	Jefferson Blvd.
Wed.	Nov. 28	North East	Jefferson Blvd.	St. Joe River
Thurs.	Nov. 29	South East	St. Joe River	Ewing St.
Fri.	Nov. 30	South East	Ewing St.	Ireland Rd.
Mon.	Dec. 3	South East	Ireland Rd.	City Limits





Clean City/Green City **Leaf Collection & Safety Tips**

- ***DO NOT allow children to play in leaf piles for their safety!***
- Leaf Vac crews will sweep your block two times during this period. Specific area schedule attached.
- Please rake leaves to the curb line, avoid raking them into the street, as this will plug the street drains, causing them to flood.
- Please do not rake leaves to curb lines after crews have finished your street. They will not return until the next scheduled day in your area (approx. 2 weeks later).
- Do not park on top of or in front of leaf piles along curb lines. A vehicle left running while parked over leaves can ignite a fire.
- Please separate all trash and debris from leaf piles/bags. Leaf crews cannot sweep up loose leaf piles contaminated with sticks, trash, and other debris. Trash contaminates the recycling process. Crews will not pickup these piles, it is the property owner's responsibility to dispose of contaminated piles.
- Burning of leaves is totally prohibited in the City of South Bend and is a violation of City ordinance.
- The City collects bagged leaves throughout the year. Please place bagged leaves at curbside by 6:00 a.m. on your regular trash pickup day.
- The City is providing free Clean City leaf bags for the 6th year in a row. Heavy duty, biodegradable leaf bags are available at area neighborhood centers, while supplies last. For a list of neighborhood centers, please visit www.southbendin.gov/releaf, or call 235-9261.

***TO HEAR A TAPE RECORDED MESSAGE OF OUR WEEKLY SCHEDULE,
PLEASE CALL 287-5005. FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE
CALL 235-9244 AND OUR DISPATCHER WILL ASSIST YOU.***